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**D. AVERY.**—Public Stenographer, at rear, Lansing's insurance department, ground floor, Judd bldg.; Tel. Main 369.

## Public Improvements in Hawaii.

Mr. Barham, California, has introduced, by request, a series of bills for public improvements in Hawaii. They include a bill for a site at Honolulu, to cost \$125,000, for a Government building; for a site at Hilo costing \$15,000, and for a site at Kilauea costing \$5,000, and for the establishment of a lighthouse service in Hawaii.—Washington Star.

It is rumored that the Central American Republics are about to withdraw their consent to the construction of a canal by the United States.

A suit for over a million dollars' damages for trespass has been brought by the Anaconda Mining Company of Washington.

## FOR THE BIGGEST CITY ON EARTH

### The Republican Charter Committee's Municipality Plans.

### MAJORITY REPORT RECOMMENDS THE INCLUSION OF ALL OF OAHU

#### Startling Proposal Made Public Last Night Which Brought the Protests of the Minority and a Flood of Argument.

THE Republicans were treated to a surprise last night at the regular semi-weekly meeting of their Charter Committee. Their sub-committee on "draft of charter" brought in two reports on the question of boundaries of the proposed city, and the majority report, signed by three of the five members, favored making Honolulu the biggest city in the world. This proposition rather staggered most of the committee which, as stated by Clarence M. White, had been led to believe from the verbal report of the sub-committee at last Friday's meeting that the city of Honolulu at the most, would not extend beyond the present taxation district of Honolulu. Time for mature consideration was demanded by Mr. White, and his motion to postpone a vote on the size of the new city until the next regular meeting, on Tuesday, finally prevailed. Opinion varied as to whether the sub-committee could proceed with a draft of a charter until the question of boundaries was disposed of, but no one except members of the sub-committee were ready to debate any question and, after hearing formal reports from the other sub-committees, the general committee adjourned to gather their scattered thoughts and recover from the shock produced by the prospect of Honolulu suddenly becoming larger than London. From the faces of the committee, however, it looks as

though there will be plenty of arguments presented at Tuesday's meeting, and meantime it is hoped to secure through the press and street corner and restaurant discussion some expression of public opinion on the topic of the proper boundaries of Honolulu. "The Committee of Thirty" was called to order at 7:40 o'clock by Chairman J. H. Fisher, who stated there was a quorum present (twelve), and the secretary being absent, W. R. Sims, on motion of J. A. Gilman, was elected secretary pro tem. Roll call showed nineteen members present. They were: J. H. Fisher, chairman; J. A. Gilman, treasurer; J. H. Boyd, George A. Davis, A. V. Gear, Enoch Johnson, E. A. Mott-Smith, William Notley, J. B. Pratt, W. C. Roe, W. R. Sims, Ed Towse, W. T. P. Waterhouse, P. L. Weaver, C. M. White, E. O. White and J. H. Wilson. After approval of the minutes, the chair called for the report of the sub-committee on draft of charter. This committee had been instructed to report to the general committee on the question as to what should be the city limits of Honolulu. Last week this committee had reported verbally by George A. Davis and had been instructed to bring in a written report. During the course of his remarks Mr. Davis had said in effect that his committee would have to personally visit the suburbs, and until then could not report definitely. He also said that the committee would probably report in favor of a city restricted to the residence district, or what within the next six years or so would be the residence district, as a city covering the

entire Island of Oahu was too unwieldy. This statement was not combatted at the time by the only other member of the draft committee present. Consequently, when a majority of the committee, consisting of J. G. Pratt, T. McCants Stewart and A. V. Gear, brought in a report which proposed to include the entire Island, the general committee was unprepared. After a preliminary statement as to what his committee had done, W. O. Smith, chairman of the committee on draft, said there was a disagreement and a majority and minority reports would be presented. As he belonged to the minority, he yielded to J. G. Pratt, who had drafted and who presented the following:

#### THE MAJORITY REPORT.

Your committee appointed to prepare a charter for the municipal government of Honolulu, and to establish the boundary lines thereof, beg leave to submit the following: The committee, before proceeding with the drafting of the charter, deemed it necessary, first, to fix the boundaries of the Territory to be included within the municipality. Two plans have been proposed, each of which the committee has given careful consideration. One plan proposes the setting apart of that portion of the Island of Oahu, now included within the District of Kona, being practically the present city of Honolulu, as a municipality separate and distinct from the other districts of the Island, the same to be known under the name and style of the City of Honolulu, and providing a municipal charter for its government, with Mayor as Chief Executive, who, together with five members to be elected from the precincts or wards of the city, as Councilmen, shall constitute the City Council, and have powers of government over the same, thereby taking out of the control of the Territorial government the administration of local affairs of this district, leaving the other remaining districts of the Island under the control of the Territorial Government, as at present. The other plan, and that which the committee begs leave to recommend for your adoption, proposes the setting apart of all of the Island of Oahu, reserving and excepting the property required by the United States and Territorial Governments, and providing the same with a municipal form of government, not only taking in the District of Kona, but the other four remaining districts of the Island, the same to be known as and by the name of the City and County of Honolulu, having, also, as Chief Executive a Mayor, who, together with the persons to be chosen as Councilmen from the several districts, wards and precincts thereof, shall constitute the legislative body of the municipality, so forming a representative government; and shall have the power to make all such laws, rules, regulations and ordinances as are necessary and not in conflict with the Organic Act of the Territory, or with the laws of the United States. In this connection, it is proposed further to adopt, as nearly as possible, the present Territorial laws, rules and regulations as the laws, rules and regulations of the municipality, thereby continuing in force the present well-organized machinery of government. The committee, after carefully weigh-

(Continued on Page 3.)

## M'KINLEY HOLDS UP DOLE'S HANDS

### President Signs all the Land Grants.

### SALES IN HAWAII ARE CONFIRMED

#### The Protests of Olaa Squatters Had no Weight in Washington.

PRESIDENT M'KINLEY has upheld Governor Dole in the public land sales made by the Hawaiian Government between July 7, 1893, the date of the passage of the Resolution of Annexation, and September 30, 1900. Governor Dole has received complete advice to that effect from the Secretary of the Interior, together with copies of all the sales made during that period, which bears the signature of President McKinley, approving the transfers. The Olaa squatters are denied the rights usurped by them and the application of J. E. Hines and others to the administration at Washington to approve their right to remain on the lands held by them is disallowed. On December 10, 1900, Secretary of Interior Hitchcock wrote Governor Dole in answer to a communication from the latter dated November 13, in which he had enclosed a statement from J. F. Brown, Commissioner of Public Lands, respecting the authority of the Hawaiian officers over the public lands in Hawaii, and also enclosed a copy of a letter from Assistant Attorney General Van Devanter to the Attorney General, dated December 4. The Assistant Attorney General is assigned to the Interior Department, his duties being to pass upon all land questions. This letter expresses the views of the Assistant Attorney General upon the question discussed by the Commissioner of Public Lands in his statement, the substance of which has appeared in the Advertiser. The views of Mr. Van Devanter, says Secretary Hitchcock, were reached af-

ter the consideration of the statement prepared by the Commissioner of Public Lands, and of a like statement, but reaching a different conclusion, prepared by United States District Attorney Baird for the District of Hawaii. The Assistant Attorney General says in part: "Answering your letter of the 3rd instant, enclosing a letter of the 19th ultimo from the United States District Attorney for Hawaii, together with a brief prepared by him, and copies of correspondence, all relative to the authority of the public officers of the Territory of Hawaii to sell, lease or otherwise dispose of public lands in the Hawaiian Islands, I have read the enclosures named, but I DO NOT AGREE WITH the United States District Attorney in his conclusion that the public officers of the Territory of Hawaii are not authorized to sell, lease or otherwise dispose of public lands in the Hawaiian Islands. While the ground of authority could have been more plainly stated, it seems to me that the conclusion is far from difficult, and that subject to certain specified changes and amendments, the Act of April 30, 1900, continues in force 'the laws of Hawaii relating to public lands,' and thereby provides a system whereby the public lands of those Islands may be disposed of 'until Congress shall otherwise provide.'"

"These public lands are not granted to the Territory, but Congress, in the exercise of its power and discretion, has made the Hawaiian 'Treaties and Hawaiian laws subject to the changes and amendments specified, its instruments for the time being for the disposal of these lands."

"In your letter to me it is said, 'the (United States Attorney) seems to have come to a conclusion opposed to that in your report of July 10, 1900, to the Secretary of the Interior.' There was no report, letter or opinion from me upon this subject at or up to the time named, but I find a letter from Acting Secretary Ryan to the Governor of Hawaii, dated July 27 last, and an opinion from myself to the Secretary of the Interior, dated October 15 last, both of which may be said to be opposed to the general views expressed by the United States Attorney for Hawaii."

Again, on December 7, three days previous to the above communication from the Secretary of the Interior, the latter wrote to Governor Dole referring to a letter addressed to his department by the Governor requesting instructions upon the issue raised by the application of Hackfeld & Co. for the privilege of deforesting a tract approximately 4,500 acres of land near Hilo. It was stated in the Governor's letter that the land is part of a large tract of 41,834 acres of public land leased to John Baker of Hilo in 1887 for twenty years and afterwards extended by the same commissioners until March 21, 1921, and that the lease contained a condition that trees should not be destroyed by the lessee, and that the tract is mainly forest land. The Governor further explained to the Secretary that the Government in 1898 permitted the clearing of a small section of 300 acres in the lowest part of the tract for the cultivation of sugar cane by a co-operative Portuguese company.

Governor Dole wrote that he had hesitated in regard to this new application for the privilege of clearing 4,500 acres for the cultivation of sugar cane lest such action over so large an area might injuriously affect meteorological conditions and the conservation of water in that locality, and that in the absence of a professional forester he asked Dr. Maxwell, formerly Director of the Experiment Station of the Hawaiian Sugar Planters' Association, to investigate the matter and report to him. The report was received, which was favorable to the granting of the application. Governor Dole, however, referred the matter to the administration at Washington, inasmuch as the Hawaiian lands are in the control of the Federal Government and their legislation controlled by Congress.

Secretary Hitchcock, in reply to the Governor, says in part: "In response thereto I have to state that upon consideration of the facts presented I do not deem it advisable, at this time, that the company be permitted to clear a tract of more than 500 acres of land, especially as the Government has no skilled forester. In your annual report you call attention to the fact that such an officer should be provided and this, it seems to me, can be done by the Hawaiian Legislature at its regular session."

The Governor has also received duplicate copies of all land grants, exchanges, patents and Government leases issued as from the Department of the Interior between July 7, 1893, and September 28, 1900. In order to indicate that the sales were in all cases perfectly valid the title is vested in the Department of Interior, Washington. In this the Governor is fully sustained by the administration. At the bottom of each list appears the following, which speaks for itself: "Executive Mansion, Washington, D. C., November 30, 1900."

"Approved under the provision of section 73 of the Act of Congress approved April 30, 1900."

#### "WILLIAM M'KINLEY."

On December 13 Secretary Hitchcock again wrote Governor Dole that the lists, in duplicate, of sales and other dispositions of public domain in Hawaii, made by the Hawaiian Government within the period above specified, which were submitted to the Hawaiian executive for consideration or execu-

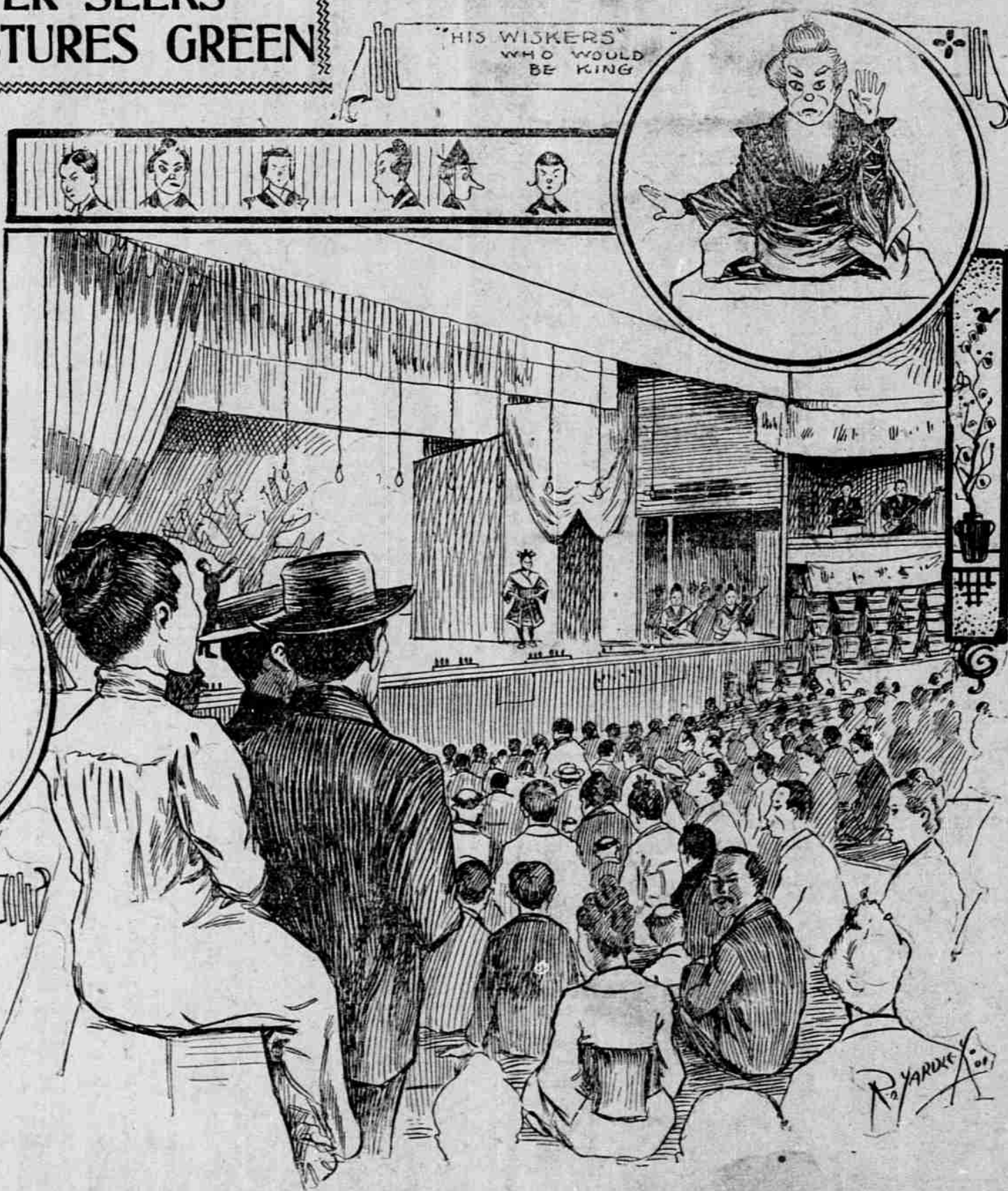
(Continued on Page 4.)

## JAPANESE THEATER SEEKS OTHER PASTURES GREEN

### The Big Show To Fold Its Tent After Tonight.

### ORIENTAL THESPIANS WILL TOUR THE FOUR ISLANDS

#### This Evening the Last Performance Will Be Given at Iwilei.



THE Japanese theater at Iwilei winds up tonight with a big final performance, after a prosperous run of a week. The company will leave next week for other fields, pitching its tent in various sections of the Island about the sugar plantations, and when Oahu has been thoroughly covered, the company will embark for a tour of the other Islands with its startling repertoire of combination opera, drama and vaudeville. For seven nights large audiences have squatted delightedly upon the ground and gazed entranced at the amazing things portrayed upon the stage. They have seen barren brown wooden apple trees sprout forth into a mass of pink blossoms in indication of the arrival of spring, and have revelled in the realistic acting of the villain who carried a knife three feet long, with which he ruthlessly slew innocent maidens and noble men. They have had their eardrums tickled with the wonderful music of the three noted Japanese guitar players, and have drunk in the guttural melody of a two-note-and-a-half baritone. They have beheld the Japanese dancer contorting according to the highest art and grace of the Japanese conception, and they have trodden on air after the manner of a small boy on circus wheels, above the practical things of every-day life. But with the grand finale tonight they will come to earth again. The Japanese theater season will be over for Honolulu.